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• FOOD HABITS OF THE RED PORGY, Pagrus pagrus Linnaeus (Pisces: Sparidae) off NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTH CAROLINA. Charles S. Manooch, III. Digestive tracts of 779 red porgy, Pagrus pagrus, 46 to 625 mm total length, collected by hook and line and trawl off North Carolina and South Carolina from May, 1972 through April, 1974, were examined. Ninety-seven per cent of the specimens contained food representing 64 taxa of organisms. Approximately 74 per cent of the foods (and 60 per cent of the volume) of adult Pagrus was composed of obligate benthic animals and approximately 90 per cent of the diet was of organisms which live near the bottom. Invertebrates, represented primarily by crustaceans, mollusks, and echinoderms, occurred in 89 per cent of the adult fish. Crabs, mainly majids, portunids, and calappids, were the predominant food by both frequency of occurrence and volume. Fish representing 14 families occurred in 24 per cent of the stomachs and comprised 15 per cent of the food volume of adult red porgy. While larger juveniles, 130 to 162 mm total length, ingested similar foods as adults, small juveniles, 46-64 mm, fed on amphipods, copepods, stomatopods, and annelids. Slight differences in frequency occurrence of organisms in the diet were noted between geographical areas, depths, and seasons. Size of red porgy produced a more pronounced effect on the diet.